of resultant products. A proposal has been received from Indian Sugar and General Industry Import & Export Corporation for permitting import of raw sugar under Duty Exemption Scheme for processing and exporting processed sugar. The proposal is under consideration.

Guidelines for Pre-shipment Credit to Exporters

1299. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the RBI has recently issued guidelines for extending the facility of pre-shipment credit in foreign currency to exporters;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued;

(c) the reaction of the exporters on these guidelines;

(d) whether such a step of Government would encourage exports from the country; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, RBI has issued guidelines for extending the facility of pre-shipment credit in foreign currency to exporters on 8 November 1993.

(b) The facility will be available in all convertible currencies and the Scheme will cover cash exports only. The Scheme covers both the domestic as well as imported inputs of the exported goods. The facility will be available for a period of 180 days on the basis of firm export order or confirmed L/C. The ultimate cost to the exporter will not exceed 2% over 6 months LIBOR excluding withholding tax.

(c) The Scheme has generally been welcomed by the exporters as indicated during discussions with export organisations.

(d) Yes. The Scheme is intended as an additional window for providing pre-shipment credit to Indian exporters at internationally competitive rates of interest.

(e) As the Scheme has been introduced recently it is too early to know the effect as on now.

Import of Coal

1300. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much coal has been imported by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board so far; and

(b) what is the total cost of the coal so far imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Government does not maintain State Electricity Board wise import data for coal.

(b) Question does not arise.

Share of Indian Goods in World Trade

1301. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what share of world-trade the Indian goods have captured at present;

(b) whether India's agriculure produce and products can fairly compete in the world-market especially in the field of health food; and

(c) what is the share of India in World agricultural produce/trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) India's share in world trade during April—June, 92, the latest period for which data is available, is 0.58%.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.